



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 343

February Session, 2002

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION PLAN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Sustainable Energy Institute
2 shall, in consultation with the regional independent system operator,
3 as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended, the
4 Department of Public Utility Control and the Office of Consumer
5 Counsel, conduct a study of the electric transmission infrastructure in
6 the state that shall include, but not be limited to, an inventory of the
7 supply and demand resources affecting such infrastructure. The
8 institute shall utilize the information gathered in its study to develop a
9 plan that contains options for the maintenance and development of
10 such infrastructure, which options shall include, but not be limited to,
11 distributed generation, demand-side management, conservation
12 measures, and improvements to the transmission infrastructure. Not
13 later than January 1, 2003, the institute shall submit its plan to the joint
14 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
15 matters relating to energy and technology in accordance with section
16 11-4a of the general statutes.

17 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 16-50p of the general statutes is
18 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
19 *1, 2002*):

20 (c) (1) The council shall not grant a certificate for a facility described

21 in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, either as proposed
22 or as modified by the council, unless it finds and determines: (A) A net
23 public benefit for the facility; (B) the nature of the probable
24 environmental impact, including a specification of every significant
25 adverse and beneficial effect that, whether alone or cumulatively with
26 other effects, conflicts with the policies of the state concerning the
27 natural environment, ecological balance, public health and safety,
28 scenic, historic and recreational values, forests and parks, air and
29 water purity and fish and wildlife; and (C) why the adverse effects or
30 conflicts referred to in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision are not
31 sufficient reason to deny the application. For purposes of
32 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, a net public benefit exists if such
33 a facility is necessary for the reliability of the electric power supply of
34 the state or for a competitive market for electricity.

35 (2) The council shall not grant a certificate for a facility described in
36 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i which is substantially
37 underground or underwater except where such facilities interconnect
38 with existing overhead facilities, either as proposed or as modified by
39 the council, unless it finds and determines: (A) A net public benefit for
40 the facility; (B) the nature of the probable environmental impact,
41 including a specification of every single adverse and beneficial effect
42 that, whether alone or cumulatively with other effects, conflict with the
43 policies of the state concerning the natural environment, ecological
44 balance, public health and safety, scenic, historic and recreational
45 values, forests and parks, air and purity and fish and wildlife; (C) why
46 the adverse effects or conflicts referred to in subparagraph (B) of this
47 subdivision are not sufficient reason to deny the application; (D) in the
48 case of a new electric transmission line, (i) what part, if any, of the
49 facility shall be located overhead, (ii) that the facility conforms to a
50 long-range plan for expansion of the electric power grid of the electric
51 systems serving the state and interconnected utility systems and will
52 serve the interests of electric system economy and reliability, and (iii)
53 that the overhead portions of the facility, if any, are cost-effective and
54 the most appropriate alternative based on a life-cycle cost analysis of

55 the facility and underground alternatives to such facility and are
56 consistent with the purposes of this chapter, with such regulations as
57 the council may adopt pursuant to subsection (a) of section 16-50t, and
58 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission "Guidelines For the
59 Protection of Natural Historic Scenic and Recreational Values in the
60 Design and Location of Rights-of-Way and Transmission Facilities" or
61 any other successor guidelines and any other applicable federal
62 guidelines; and (E) in the case of an electric or fuel transmission line,
63 that the location of the line will not pose an undue hazard to persons
64 or property along the area traversed by the line. For purposes of
65 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, a net public benefit exists if such
66 a facility is necessary for the reliability of the electric power supply of
67 the state or for the development of a competitive market for electricity.

68 Sec. 3. Section 16-244g of the general statutes is amended by adding
69 subsection (f) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

70 (NEW) (f) Nothing in this subsection shall preclude an electric
71 distribution company from installing generation capacity at an electric
72 substation for transmission purposes.

73 Sec. 4. Subsection (d) of section 16-245m of the general statutes is
74 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
75 *1, 2002*):

76 (d) The Energy Conservation Management Board shall advise and
77 assist the electric distribution companies in the development and
78 implementation of a comprehensive plan, which plan shall be
79 approved by the Department of Public Utility Control, to implement
80 cost-effective energy conservation programs and market
81 transformation initiatives. Programs included in the plan shall be
82 screened through cost-effectiveness testing which compares the value
83 and payback period of program benefits to program costs to ensure
84 that programs are designed to obtain energy savings whose value is
85 greater than the costs of the programs. Program cost-effectiveness shall
86 be reviewed annually, or otherwise as is practicable. If a program is

87 determined to fail the cost-effectiveness test as part of the review
88 process, it shall either be modified to meet the test or shall be
89 terminated. On or before January 31, 2001, and annually thereafter
90 until January 31, 2006, the board shall provide a report to the joint
91 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
92 matters relating to energy and the environment which documents
93 expenditures, fund balances and evaluates the cost-effectiveness of
94 such programs conducted in the preceding year. Such programs may
95 include, but not be limited to: (1) Conservation and load management
96 programs; (2) research, development and commercialization of
97 products or processes which are more energy-efficient than those
98 generally available; (3) development of markets for such products and
99 processes; (4) support for energy use assessment, engineering studies
100 and services related to new construction or major building renovation;
101 (5) the design, manufacture, commercialization and purchase of
102 energy-efficient appliances and heating, air conditioning and lighting
103 devices; (6) program planning and evaluation; [and] (7) public
104 education regarding conservation; and (8) conservation programs
105 targeted to areas of the state with transmission congestion. Such
106 support may be by direct funding, manufacturers' rebates, sale price
107 and loan subsidies, leases and promotional and educational activities.
108 Any other expenditure by the collaborative shall be limited to
109 retention of expert consultants and reasonable administrative costs
110 provided such consultants shall not be employed by, or have any
111 contractual relationship with, an electric distribution company. Such
112 costs shall not exceed five per cent of the total revenue collected from
113 the assessment.

114 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 16-245n of the general statutes is
115 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
116 *1, 2002*):

117 (c) There is hereby created a Renewable Energy Investment Fund
118 which shall be administered by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated.
119 The fund may receive any amount required by law to be deposited
120 into the fund and may receive any federal funds as may become

121 available to the state for renewable energy investments. Connecticut
 122 Innovations, Incorporated, may use any amount in said fund for
 123 expenditures which promote investment in renewable energy sources
 124 in accordance with a comprehensive plan developed by it to foster the
 125 growth, development and commercialization of renewable energy
 126 sources, related enterprises and stimulate demand for renewable
 127 energy, [and] deployment of renewable energy sources which serve
 128 end use customers in this state, and the use of renewable energy
 129 sources in areas of the state with transmission congestion. Such
 130 expenditures may include, but not be limited to, grants, direct or
 131 equity investments, contracts or other actions which support research,
 132 development, manufacture, commercialization, deployment and
 133 installation of renewable energy technologies, and actions which
 134 expand the expertise of individuals, businesses and lending
 135 institutions with regard to renewable energy technologies.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2002</i>

ET *Joint Favorable Subst.*

CE *Joint Favorable*